MUNDO OBRERO
WORKERS WORLD

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite! workers.org Vol. 67, No. 29 July 17, 2025 $1

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Trump and politicians' inactions behind Texas flood deaths

By Gloria Rubac
Houston

The Texas Hill Country is known for beautiful rolling hills, hundreds of wineries, scrumptious peaches, and tubing down the Guadalupe River.

On the 4th of July, life along the river was forever changed. Rain began early that morning with a report that the river had risen 7 feet. Four hours later it was a raging unstoppable surge of over 37 feet, totally destroying everything in its path. Entire trailer parks, camp grounds, parks, trucks, houses, and children's summer camps were all washed away.

By the morning of July 14, the death toll was over 130, with 170 people still missing.

A meteorologist explained why the search for the missing people in automobiles is so difficult. First, searchers have to remove the heavy genie lift they use in car rescues, then pull out the crumbled road and cement from the car. After that they dig the car out and then must remove three feet of mud and gravel. This is just to see if someone might be in the car.

Officials of Kerr County, where most of the devastation occurred, had discussed installing a flood warning system along the Guadalupe River eight years ago, but ultimately rejected the idea, saying it was too expensive. When catastrophic floodwaters surged over the weekend, there were no sirens or early flooding monitors.

Text alerts came late for some residents and were dismissed or not seen by others. Most residents were sleeping as it was the middle of the night.

The July 8 Houston Chronicle reports that nearly a decade ago, several local officials were hard at work convincing their peers to buy into a new early flood warning system.

But the new warning system never became reality. Local officials did agree to spend $50,000 on an engineering study, which made recommendations for a warning project in 2016, but the officials never found the $1 million to implement it — despite asking for help from the state government on at least three separate occasions.

In 2017, Kerr County and the Upper Guadalupe River Authority asked the state to give them federal disaster relief funds, but their application was denied. They tried a second time after 2017's catastrophic Hurricane Harvey, as Gov. Greg Abbott encouraged local entities to submit applications. The state again rejected the applications.

Mexican firefighters volunteering for search and rescue in Texas after flooding, July 2025.

Warning system was possible

Since the flood, Kerr County officials have been visibly aggravated by so many others telling them they should have had a warning system. They reply that even national forecasters didn't realize that so much rain could fall in such a short period of time.

But Phil Bedient, who has spent decades designing flood protection and prediction systems as director of Rice University's SSPEED (Severe Storm Prediction, Education and Evacuation from Disasters) Center, disagreed.

Bedient said, "We have radar, and we have cell phones, and we have sirens, and those three things together can be used to create a pretty good system. It's hundreds of thousands of dollars, but what's that versus 80 or 100 people dying in a flash flood? This storm has told us we just can't wait anymore." (Houston Chronicle, July 8)

Award-winning opinion writer Chris Tomlinson writes commentary about money, politics and life in Texas for the Houston Chronicle. In a blistering July 7 column after the floods, his headline screamed, "Guadalupe River flood deaths were entirely preventable — but Texas officials ignored the warnings."

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From a 2000 campaign demanding release of Mumia Abu-Jamal and Shaka Sankofa, both of whom were on death row at the time
ABOLITION NOW TEXAS FACEBOOK

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Workers World hails Cuba's socialist Revolution on Moncada's 72nd anniversary

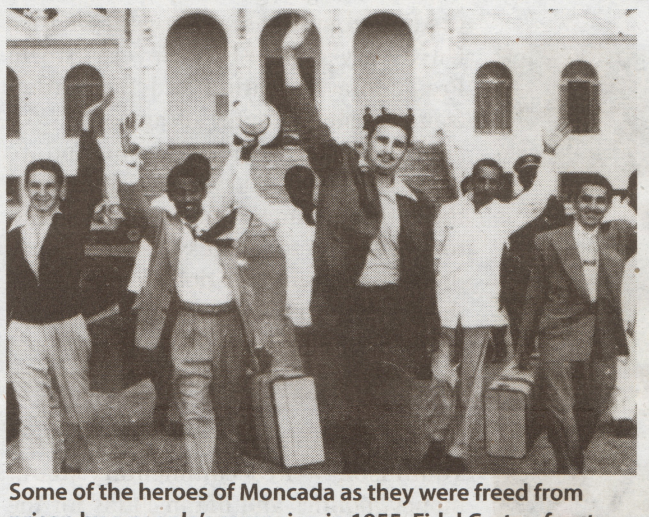
Workers World/Mundo Obrero joins with the Cuban people in celebrating the 72nd anniversary of an event which changed the course of history for their island nation. On July 26, 1953, Cuban revolutionaries boldly attacked the Moncada garrison in Santiago de Cuba and simultaneously conducted a siege of the army barracks in Bayamo.

These courageous acts were aimed to strike a blow against the brutal U.S.-backed dictatorship of Fulgencio Batista. Although the revolutionaries' military goals were not achieved and the struggle suffered a temporary setback, the armed struggle had reached a new stage that continued until the dictatorship was overthrown on Jan. 1, 1959. As the guerrilla forces fought in the mountains, an underground movement spread across the country.

Cuba has not only developed in every sphere since the socialist revolution, this island nation has carried out acts of international solidarity to aid oppressed countries in Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and Asia, whether with military might or medical brigades, despite Washington's intimidation and threats.

This assistance has been given generously, despite the horrific blockade implemented against Cuba by Washington for 63 years. Even during the pandemic, despite a dearth of medical supplies, Cuba sent medical teams and shared its COVID-19 vaccines with countries denied them by the imperialist West.

Last June, in a strong show of solidarity with the besieged Palestinian people, Cuba joined the lawsuit filed by South Africa against Israel's genocidal war in Gaza before the International Court of Justice. Palestinian leaders welcomed Cuba's intervention and thanked the country's leaders and people for their support.



Some of the heroes of Moncada as they were freed from prison by a people's campaign in 1955. Fidel Castro, front, center.

International support of Cuba and its people is essential, especially because of the restrictions on travel, trade and financial transactions imposed by U.S. administrations — Republican and Democratic. Now, under Trump, the U.S. has further curtailed travel.

Cuba has deservedly won the support and respect of peoples around the globe. Workers World/Mundo Obrero has shown our unwavering solidarity with this socialist country on this newspaper's pages and in countless activities on the streets.

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This pro-worker newspaper depends on our readers' backing. The WW Supporter Program was launched 48 years ago to help publish this socialist newspaper and 30 years ago, support workers.org, where new articles are posted daily and the weekly paper's PDF is posted and archived.

Workers.org contains news and analyses of global and U.S. struggles, bulletins from national liberation movements and articles translated by our staff. Our writer-organizers report on anti-capitalist struggles and people's movements against racism and war — and for the rights of Black, Latiné, Arab, Asian and Indigenous people, women, workers, migrants, prisoners, LGTBQIA2S+ communities, low-income, elderly and disabled individuals. Prisoners receive all print issues for free. **The website is a resource for political activists.**

While WW's staff is voluntary, the 12 annually printed issues and workers.org incur expenses. Although many online publications require payments to read their articles, WW does not. **Our articles are free to all readers.**

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Your donations help get class truth to more readers — and are appreciated. Write monthly or annual checks to Workers World. Mail them with your name, address and email address to Workers World, 121 West 27th St., Rm. 404, New York, NY 10001. ☐

Join us in the fight for socialism!

Workers World Party is a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party inside the belly of the imperialist beast. We are a multinational, multigenerational and multigendered organization that not only aims to abolish capitalism, but to build a socialist society because it's the only way forward!

Capitalism and imperialism threaten the peoples of the world and the planet itself in the neverending quest for ever-greater profits.

Capitalism means war and austerity, racism and repression, attacks on im/migrants, misogyny, LGBTQIA2S+ oppression and mistreatment of people with disabilities. It means joblessness, increasing homelessness and impoverishment and lack of hope for the future. No social problems can be solved under capitalism.

The U.S. is the richest country in the world, yet no one has a guaranteed right to shelter, food, water, health care, education or anything else — unless they can pay for it. Wages are lower than ever, and youth are saddled with seemingly insurmountable student debt, if they even make it to college. Black, Brown and Indigenous youth and trans people are gunned down by cops and bigots on a regular basis.

The ruthless ruling class today seeks to wipe out decades of gains and benefits won by hard-fought struggles by people's movements. The super-rich and their political representatives have intensified their attacks on the multinational, multigender and multigenerational working class. It is time to point the blame at — and challenge — the capitalist system.

WWP fights for socialism because the working class produces all wealth in society, and this wealth should remain in their hands, not be stolen in the form of capitalist profits. The wealth workers create should be socially owned and its distribution planned to satisfy and guarantee basic human needs.

Since 1959, Workers World Party has been out in the streets defending the workers and oppressed here and worldwide. If you're interested in Marxism, class solidarity, and joining us in the fight for a socialist future, please sign up at ***www.workers.org/join-form*** and an organizer will get back to you. Or contact a WWP branch near you. ☐

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Vol. 67, No. 29 • July 17, 2025
Closing date: July 16, 2025

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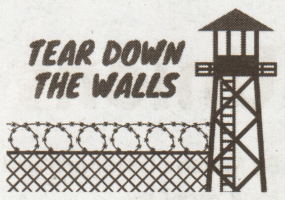
Workers World (ISSN-1070-4205) is published monthly by WW Publishers, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Phone: 212.627.2994. Subscriptions: One year: $36; institutions: $50. Letters to the editor may be condensed and edited. Articles can be freely reprinted, with credit to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404, New York, NY 10001. Back issues and individual articles are available on microfilm and/or photocopy from NA Publishing, Inc, P.O. Box 998, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-0998. A searchable archive is available on the Web at www.workers.org.

A headline digest is available via e-mail subscription. Subscription information is at workers.org.

Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Workers World, 121 W. 27th St., Suite 404 New York, N.Y. 10001.

On the 25th anniversary of his execution

Shaka Sankofa ¡presente!



By Gloria Rubac
Houston

Passion, admiration, love, and a bit of sadness filled the venue of the Houston Chapter of the National Black United Front (NBUF) on June 22 as a packed house, along with 35 people on Zoom from around the country, remembered one of the most outspoken and militant incarcerated activists Texas has ever locked up: Shaka Sankofa (aka Gary Graham).

As activists from the original Gary Graham Justice Committee, formed during the early 1980s in Houston, spoke on the history of the case, folks at the memorial learned of his development from a youth who got into trouble for expropriating cars to an educated and politically astute activist who organized hunger strikes, founded an organization, and published a newspaper that had subscribers in the U.S. and Europe.

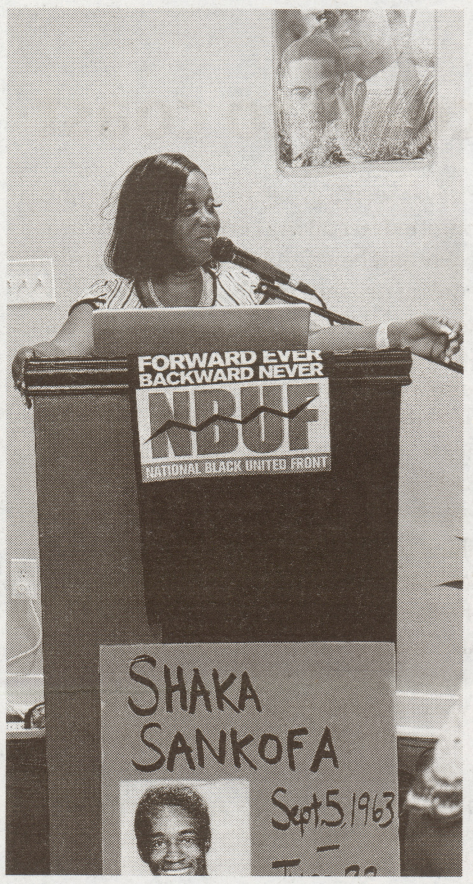


PHOTO: FACEBOOK/DEIDRA HAWKINS

Shaka Sankofa's daughter, Deidre Hawkins, June 22, 2025.

Speakers at the memorial included Deloyd Parker, the director of the S.H.A.P.E. (Self-Help for African People through Education) Center; Kofi Taharka, chair of the NBUF; Anthony Freddie; Sister Krystal Sonia, chair of the New Black Panther Party; Deidra Hawkins, Shaka's daughter, and this reporter.

Speaking via Zoom were Shaka's friend Ashanti Chimurenga; Monica Moorehead and Larry Holmes from Workers World Party; Roger Wareham, December 12th Movement and the Reverend Herbert Daughtry, among others. The latter four Zoom speakers were members of the New York committee that fought for Shaka's life.

'This lynching will not be forgotten'

On June 22, 2000, Shaka was legally lynched as hundreds and hundreds of people protested outside of the death house in Huntsville, Texas, on a scorching-hot summer day. Ku Klux Klan racists, dressed in robes and hoods, walked freely. Members of the New Black Panthers marched around the area carrying long guns. There was a military tank a few feet away from those protesting, parked in front of the warden's house. Cops, prison police and state troopers were out in force.

Why all the repression? Because a skinny, 17-year-old with a ninth-grade education from northeast Houston named Gary Graham was framed for a murder he knew nothing about. And after being on death row for over 20 years and becoming a revolutionary activist with supporters all over the world, he was scheduled for a 6 p.m. execution on June 22.

As Shaka lay on the gurney that night in 2000, he made a long political statement. He thanked all of his supporters, mentioning those witnessing his execution including Jesse Jackson, Bianca Jagger, the Reverend Al Sharpton, Nation of Islam's Minister Robert Muhammad, and Shaka's stepmother Elnora Graham.

Shaka's last words included: "We must move forward Minister Robert Mohammed. Ashanti Chimurenga, I love you for standing with me, my sister. We will stop this lynching. Reverend Al Sharpton, I love you, my brother. Bianca Jagger, I love all of you. Ya'll make sure that we continue to stand together. Reverend Jesse Jackson know that this murder, this lynching will not be forgotten. This is genocide in America. This is what happens to Black men when they stand up and protest for what is right and just... You can kill a revolutionary, but you cannot stop the revolution.

"They know I'm innocent. But they cannot acknowledge my innocence, because to do so would be to publicly admit their guilt. This is something these racist people will never do."

An enduring legacy of resistance

Shaka's daughter, Deidra Hawkins, told everyone at the memorial, "I miss my daddy every day. Texas killed my father. Texas is a killer but my father was not one."

Moorehead remarked: "Shaka's greatest legacy was that he resisted to the very end of his life. Even behind the inhumane walls, Shaka could never be silenced with a revolutionary message of encouraging resistance beyond himself as an individual just as our Palestinian incarcerated siblings keep resisting under the most dire conditions under occupation."

This reporter remarked: "The death penalty in the U.S. is a direct descendant of lynching. Racial terror lynchings gave way to executions in response to criticism that torturing and killing Black people for cheering audiences was undermining the U.S.'s image and moral authority on the world stage."

Lee Greenwood, whose son Joseph Nichols was executed in 2007, read a statement from a friend on death who had known Shaka the whole time he was on death row. Signed as The Underground Poet, he wrote: "Shaka was an avid reader, mainly of history and biographies of revolutionaries. And a strict news hound, interested in everything going on around the world. He would be absolutely livid over the Gaza situation, were he here, and upset with all who wasn't upset.

Shaka Sankofa

"Shaka's political awareness, and ultimate activism, began in classes organized and taught by this writer. But for an outsider looking in, it was hard to tell at times who was the student and who was the teacher. Not that he was disruptive, but how after classes he would volunteer his time to work with others who were struggling with the lessons."

The writer stressed: "It wasn't uncommon to see him off alone with someone reading from our little study pamphlet provided by Workers World Party. Twenty five years later, Shaka is still missed and mourned. His energy and work ethics as a leader and organizer were unmatched."

As Shaka laid on the gurney right before taking his last breath, he stated: "Slavery couldn't stop us. The lynchings couldn't stop us in the South. This lynching will not stop us tonight. We will go forward. Our destiny in this country is freedom and liberation. We will gain our freedom and liberation by any means necessary. By any means necessary, we keep marching forward." □

Philly, July 4-5: Mumia out of prison! U.S. out of everywhere!

By Joe Piette
Philadelphia

The 2025 version of "4th of You Lie" in Philadelphia was marked by widely-reported picketing and rallies for 9,000 city workers on strike. Less publicized was a "U.S. Out of Everywhere! Reject Amerikan Patriotism! Mumia Out of Prison!" march. On the following day, July 5, another rally to free Mumia took place more than four decades after he was unfairly sentenced on July 3, 1982.

Explaining why celebrating capitalism, colonialism and imperialism on the 4th of July is not in the interest of working and oppressed people, a coalition of a dozen local organizations held a noontime rally at City Hall on July 4. Speakers spoke with fire in their hearts. They called for Mumia Abu-Jamal's release after 43 years of unjust incarceration; for a free Palestine and an end to genocide; for the U.S. out of the Philippines and Korea; for unity with migrant workers — no deportations; and for solidarity with the first strike by city workers in 40 years.

Organizing groups and endorsers included Mobilization4Mumia, Anakbayan Philly, Philly Educators for Palestine, Community Action Relief Project, the SOL Collective, Workers World Party, Philly Socialists, Philadelphia Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression and International Jewish Labor Bund.

Led by a colorful banner that said "Let the Dragons Fly — Reject Amerikan Empire — All Power to the Anti-Colonial Struggle!," the demonstrators marched in the streets to where a rally of striking American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees District Council 33 workers was about to start.

Solidarity from Mumia

At 2:00 p.m. over 200 people — community activists, workers from various unions plus AFSCME DC33 and 47 members — rallied in support of the 9,000 unionized city workers striking for higher wages.

The rally took place in front of the security entrance to the city's official July 4th celebration on Ben Franklin Parkway.

Lead banner on Philly's July 4, 2025, protest march. WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Mumia Abu-Jamal's press card. Mumia was able to speak from prison by phone to a rally of DC 33 workers July 4.

At one point in the rally the bullhorn was given to Pam Africa, who announced that Philadelphia political prisoner Mumia Abu-Jamal wanted to say a few words live from SCI Mahanoy via her cell phone.

Here is what Mumia, a member of the National Writers Union, said: "I love it when people are fighting for a fair contract. I love it when people are gathered together to defend labor in support of working-class people and working-class rights. I love it when unions come together and fight for their people.

"I applaud all of you city workers for what you're doing. ... You know it's right! You feel it in your bones! Keep on striking. Keep on rumblin'! Keep on fighting for your rights!"

Mumia ended by singing the beginning of Bob Marley's song "Get up, stand up, stand up for your right!"

Afterwards, Pam Africa brought the phone over to the picket captain and asked

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Unions defend LGBTQIA2S+ youth, hotline workers

By Marsha Goldberg and Edward Yudelovich
New York City

Communication Workers of America Local 1180 held a spirited picket line on July 12 to protest the Trump administration's announced dismantling of the 988 "Option 3" crisis hotline for LGBTQIA2S+ youth. The picket line, held outside Trump Towers in New York City, filled the entire city block.

Local 1180 represents over 220 workers at The Trevor Project, one of many suicide prevention hotlines on the chopping block.

In a promotion for the protest on Instagram, Local 1180 stated: "No more cuts: We DEMAND that the Trump Administration resume service for the LGBTQ+ Suicide Hotline and that all crisis workers effected keep their jobs!" The cuts, the union charged, are "putting thousands of lives at risk."

Advocates for the services say 1.3 million children and youth would be impacted by the cuts. According to The Trevor Project, 39% of LGBTQIA2S+ youth in New York City have considered suicide. (cbsnews.com, July 12)

Other unions attended in solidarity, including Service Employees Union 1199 and the New York State Nurses Association. The action had over 30 endorsers, including: Professional Staff Congress at City University of New York, United Auto Workers Region 9A, New York Civil Liberties Union, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Federal Unionists Network, Starbucks Workers United, New York City Central Labor Council and Pride at Work.

The Trevor Project is one of 22 private sector shops represented by CWA Local 1180, which mainly represents New York City public sector administrative workers. Local 1180 has more than 8,500 members, more than 90% of whom are women and people of color.

In 2019, CWA Local 1180 won a landmark labor civil rights case against the City of New York, which was paying women workers of color less than white males doing the same work. ☐

CWA Local 1180 members after a demonstration to save The Trevor Project hotline for LGBTQIA2S+ youth, which is represented by Local 1180.

WW PHOTO: MARSHA GOLDBERG

Teamsters spread sanitation workers' strike coast to coast

The following is a statement by Teamsters Local 25, published on July 9, 2025.

Teamsters Local 25: Republic Services continues to lie about negotiations.

Picket lines extended to West Coast cities.

Boston — Teamsters Local 25 President Thomas G. Mari said Republic Services wants impacted towns to believe it is negotiating daily with striking collection workers — a claim that is blatantly false. "Teamsters Local 25 has not been contacted by Republic since last Thursday's meeting [July 3]. We have spoken with the federal mediator, and he has not been contacted by Republic either," Mari said.

That's why Teamsters Local 25 is urging local residents affected by the strike to demand that Republic Waste Services resume negotiations with the union and pay the employees at the same wage rate and provide the same health insurance benefit as other employees who perform the same work.

Local 25's overwhelming vote to strike a week ago was caused by Republic's refusal to agree to pay the same wages and benefits that have been negotiated by Local 25 at Capitol Waste and Star Waste Systems, Republic's major competitors in Eastern Massachusetts.

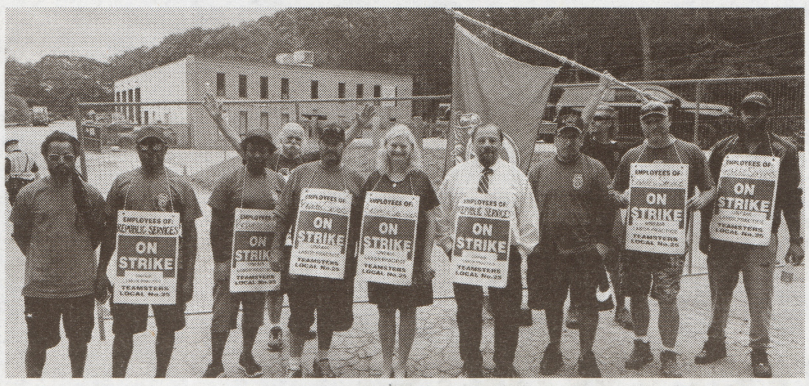
"Let's set the record straight: Republic Services was told on Thursday, July 3 that if they did not resume negotiations by Monday, July 7, we were prepared to extend picket lines across the country," Mari explained. For that reason, at approximately 3:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time today, Teamsters Local 25 was forced to extend its picket lines to San Diego, Los Angeles and Seattle. Mari said picket lines will be extended to additional cities if Republic continues to refuse to come to the bargaining table and agree to a fair contract.

Teamsters at the company's operation in Ottawa, Illinois, went on strike a day after members of Local 25. By 10:00 a.m. EST this morning, more than 4,000 Teamsters in California and Washington were either honoring Local 25's picket lines in those states or on strike in Illinois and Massachusetts.

Mari urged residents of affected Massachusetts communities to: "Tell Republic Services to get back to the table and make the deal that supports their employees. Remember, we are not asking for one penny more than the other union waste companies in Boston, Capitol Waste and Star Waste."

Strike 'is all about fairness'

"This strike is all about fairness, equity and maintaining the area standards established by Local 25," Mari added. "I have never seen a group of workers who are so united and committed to making certain they are able to enjoy the same pay and benefits as people who are doing the exact same job at another employer."



Striking Teamsters and supporters in Holbrook, Massachusetts, July 9, 2025.

Republic has never stated in any negotiating session that it cannot afford to pay the same wages and health insurance as being paid and provided by its competitors. In fact, Republic — the second-largest sanitation company in North America — enjoyed total revenue of $16 billion in 2024, a nearly 6% increase over the year prior. The firm also returned $1.18 billion to its shareholders and paid close to $13 million to its CEO.

"Republic acknowledges its wage schedule is several dollars below its competitors, as well as the fact that its health insurance plan is not as comprehensive as the Teamsters Plan enjoyed by Local 25 members at other sanitation employers throughout the region," Mari said. "Yet the company still refuses to agree to provide the same wages or health care."

"This strike will last as long as necessary to make certain that Republic Teamsters get what they rightfully deserve," Mari said. "Our members are fully committed to this effort. This strike will end when Republic comes to its senses and agrees to bring pay and benefits up to the industry standard. We know, and Republic knows, they can afford it."

Teamsters Local 25 represents more than 13,000 members and their families in greater Boston and southern New England. For more information, visit teamsterslocal25.com. ☐

Philly, July 4-5: Mumia out of prison! U.S. out of everywhere!

Continued from page 3

if she and other Black women DC 33 workers nearby wanted to talk to him. They replied, "Yes! We love Mumia," and spent a few minutes on the phone with him.

Solidarity from LL Cool J and Jasmine Sullivan

On July 3, the main concert performer, legendary rapper LL Cool J, announced his decision to refuse to "cross a picket line" to perform at the city's Wawa Welcome America Fourth of July Concert. "There's absolutely no way that I can perform, cross a picket line and pick up money when I know that people are out there fighting for a living wage," he said.

The other co-headliner, Jazmine Sullivan, also refused to participate because of the strike. The cancellations led to a clearly diminished crowd at a free concert that historically draws over 100,000 people.

DC 33 supporters, besides chanting and waving strike placards, handed out fliers to attendees calling on people to phone Mayor Cherelle Parker's office demanding "a fair contract now!"

The strike began July 1 with wages as the central issue. Union spokespeople describe DC 33 members, the majority of whom are Black and make an average of $45,000 to $46,000 per year, as "the working poor." They are among the lowest paid workers in similar jobs of any large city in the U.S.

DC 33 represents workers in the city's departments of streets and sanitation, recreation, library maintenance, water, finance, health, parking, 911 call centers, school crossing guards, the Philadelphia Housing Authority and the Philadelphia International Airport.

Mumia's struggle is about justice for all of us

Over 100 people rallied at Philadelphia's Malcolm X Park to "Free Mumia" on July 5, forty-three years after he was sentenced to death on July 3, 1982.

The event was endorsed by Philly Peace Park, Workers World Party, Philly Democratic Socialists of America, Black Lives Matter Philly, BLM Boston, Montco4Palestine, Mobilization4Mumia, Philly Palestine Coalition, Freedom Socialist Party, Philadelphia Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression, Ubuntu Freedom and Black Alliance for Peace. Speakers included YahNé Ndgo, Gabe Bryant, Pam Africa, Musa Bey, Ramona Africa and Varvara Lazaridis.

Behind a yellow banner that read "Mumia's struggle is about Justice for all of us" in black and red lettering, participants marched down 52nd Street to the Lucien E. Blackwell West Philadelphia Regional Library, where AFSCME DC 33 workers were holding down strike picketing. Strikers and Mumia supporters together chanted and sang "Solidarity Forever" for ten minutes in support of the workers struggle for justice before the march for justice for all political prisoners continued back to Malcolm X Park.

Incarcerated for a crime he didn't commit, Mumia, now 71 years old, is still behind bars at SCI Mahanoy in Pennsylvania. One of the most well-known prisoners in the world, the struggle to release Mumia continues to this day. ☐

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Pam Africa, center, with two DC 33 union members at Philadelphia march, July 4, 2025.

Zohran Mamdani's victory

What we know and don't know

WW COMMENTARY

By Monica Moorehead

To say that Zohran Mamdani winning the Democratic Party primary for mayor of New York City on June 24 was a complete stunner would be a monumental understatement. He officially beat his opponent, former New York Governor Andrew Cuomo, who conceded his defeat the same night as the vote. While it is far too early to assess what developments will take place before the mayoral vote Nov. 4, there are some points we do know and, more importantly, some we do not know.

What we do know is that Mamdani is a South Asian Muslim, born in Kampala, Uganda. His mother is the acclaimed Indian film director Mira Nair. His father, Mahmood Mamdani, is a professor who once taught in Cape Town, South Africa, and now teaches at Columbia University in New York City.

Mamdani, a member of the New York State Assembly representing a district in Queens, ran on a platform of freezing rents and affordable housing, fast, free buses, no cost childcare and city-owned grocery stores. (zohranfornyc.com/platform) He is a member of the Democratic Socialists of America, a reformist coalition that is generally to the left of the Democratic Party establishment.

While Mamdani's June 24 win excited half a million South Asian residents, reportedly along with many young voters in New York City, it drew a strong condemnation from Wall Street and big real estate corporations, along with zealous, right-wing, pro-Israel politicians, who spent $25 million on Cuomo's campaign.

These forces falsely labeled Mamdani as a "terrorist" and "antisemitic" even though Mamdani has stated he believes Israel has the "right to exist." Some Republicans have actually called for the deportation of Mamdani, who became a U.S. citizen after his parents migrated here when he was seven years old.

What we don't know

The Democratic Party is a pro-ruling class, pro-war party, similar to the Republican Party, that will attempt to co-opt its mass base by using any tactic to win elections. One of its most insidious tactics is uplifting politicians of color, whether it is a Zohran Mamdani or a Barack Obama. Voting in any U.S. election with the goal of fundamentally changing the living conditions of the masses winds up being a major disappointment. Bourgeois class rule always maintains its domination.

Zohran Mamdani supporters celebrate victory in New York City, June 24, 2025.

With all of this in mind, some questions still to be answered in the coming months are: Will Mamdani take his campaign beyond the constraints of the electoral arena? Or will his campaign cave into right-wing attacks from both capitalist parties? Will the Mamdani campaign directly engage the masses to support his platform of free buses and childcare and to prevent landlords from raising rents by calling strikes or direct actions to shake up the powers that be? Will any intensified Islamophobic, xenophobic or racist attacks or fraudulent claims of antisemitism against the Mamdani campaign spark a mass fightback amongst supporters?

The answers to these questions and more will have national and international consequences due to the heroic resistance to imperialism in the Global South led by forces in West Asia, leading to the permanent decline of global capitalism. And New York City remains the center of global finance capitalism.

No matter how the Mamdani campaign plays out in November, the time has ripened for revolutionary anti-imperialists, socialists and anyone who wants to get rid of capitalism to develop an independent united front to forge class unity to achieve this ultimate goal. ☐

The National Education Association says 'Drop all ties to the Anti-Defamation League'

By a guest author
Portland, Oregon

July 5, 2025 — On the last day of the National Education Association Representative Assembly (RA) of 7,000 educators, held in Portland, Oregon, July 3-6, delegates by a majority vote passed a resolution to "Drop the ADL." The Anti-Defamation League is an organization that equates criticism of the Israeli genocide with antisemitism. The assembly also passed a strong amendment resolution to support Arab American students, families and educators.

The resolution, which was moved by Judy Greenspan, a Jewish educator from the Oakland Education Association, was brief and to the point. It read: "NEA will not use, endorse, or publicize any materials from the Anti-Defamation League (ADL), such as its curricular materials or its statistics. NEA will not participate in ADL programs or publicize ADL professional development offerings." (RA Today, July 4)

The stated rationale for New Business Item 39, as resolutions are labeled in NEA, is: "Educators embrace the urgency to respond to the questions of racism, injustice, and all forms of bigotry. Despite its reputation as a civil rights organization, the ADL is not the social justice educational partner it claims to be."

This resolution was the result of more than 10 years of difficult organizing, first by individual educators from all over the country and now by the newly formed NEA caucus, Educators for Palestine.

Educators for Palestine

In the past, due to the strength of pro-Zionist delegates in the NEA and to the false equation of criticism of Israel with antisemitism, it was impossible to talk about the U.S./Israeli genocidal war against Palestine on the NEA floor.

According to Greenspan, a member of the Educators for Palestine caucus, this year there was a progressive shift in consciousness among the NEA delegates. "Delegates were finally able to separate criticism of a genocidal war with false claims of antisemitism," she stated.

The day before the vote on NBI 39, the Arab American Education RA Report was passed by a two-thirds majority. This report, for the first time, called for Arab American students, families and educators to have direct involvement in the development of Arab American educational programs.

The ADL has been consistently discredited over the past several decades for forcing school districts to adopt language and lessons equating criticism of Israel with antisemitism. The Fall 2024 issue of Rethinking Schools contains an article by Nora Lester Murad, "Educators Beware: The Anti-Defamation League Is Not the Social Justice Organization It Claims to Be."

In addition to opposing DEI (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion) and criticizing the Black Lives Matter Movement, the ADL has tried to label Jewish Voice for Peace, Students for Justice in Palestine and the Council on American-Islamic Relations as antisemitic. More recently, the ADL has actively participated in local and federal investigatory witch hunts targeting students and educators who dare to oppose the U.S./Israeli war on Palestine.

Since the vote to drop the ADL, members of Educators for Palestine have been doxxed and harassed by pro-Israeli groups. The NEA has referred the resolution to the Executive Committee to decide the next steps. ☐

Hamas condemns Israel's crimes

The following statement from the Islamic Resistance Movement — Hamas was issued on July 7, 2025, by Resistance News Network. According to the Government Media Office in Gaza, currently, about 1.25 million people in Gaza are experiencing catastrophic hunger, while 96% of the Strip's residents suffer from severe levels of food insecurity, including more than one million children, a shocking reality that reflects the scale of the unprecedented humanitarian tragedy. (July 12)

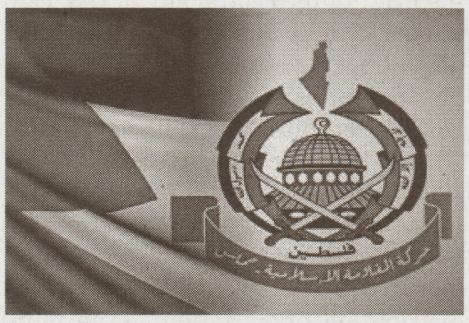
The crimes of the Zionist occupation against unarmed civilians in the Gaza Strip continue through the deadly aid mechanism, which has turned into death traps managed by the occupation forces with U.S. cover, exacerbating the number of martyrs daily and revealing the criminal nature of this system.

While we, in the Hamas movement, reiterate our strong condemnation of the continued operation of this deadly mechanism, we affirm the necessity of returning to U.N. mechanisms, under the supervision of the United Nations and its specialized institutions.

The occupation's continued direct and deliberate targeting of schools and displacement shelters leads to dozens of martyrs and wounded daily from forcibly displaced families in a blatant violation of all international norms. Enemy aircraft also continue to launch repeated raids on hospitals and medical centers in a systematic crime targeting what remains of the collapsed health system.

Coinciding with the starvation policy, the occupation army escalated its targeting of the few water desalination plants in the Gaza Strip, using "thirst" as a parallel weapon to hunger against millions of civilians, exacerbating the humanitarian catastrophe striking Gaza from all sides and adding a new crime to the record of the ongoing war of extermination.

The commission by the government of war criminal Netanyahu of the most heinous types of mass killings, siege and starvation places before the international community with all its institutions, and Arab and Islamic countries, a moral and legal responsibility that necessitates serious and urgent action to stop these crimes that have continued for twenty-one months without deterrence.



This statement was lightly edited.

WW COMMENTARY

Make Israel Palestine again!

By Monica Moorehead

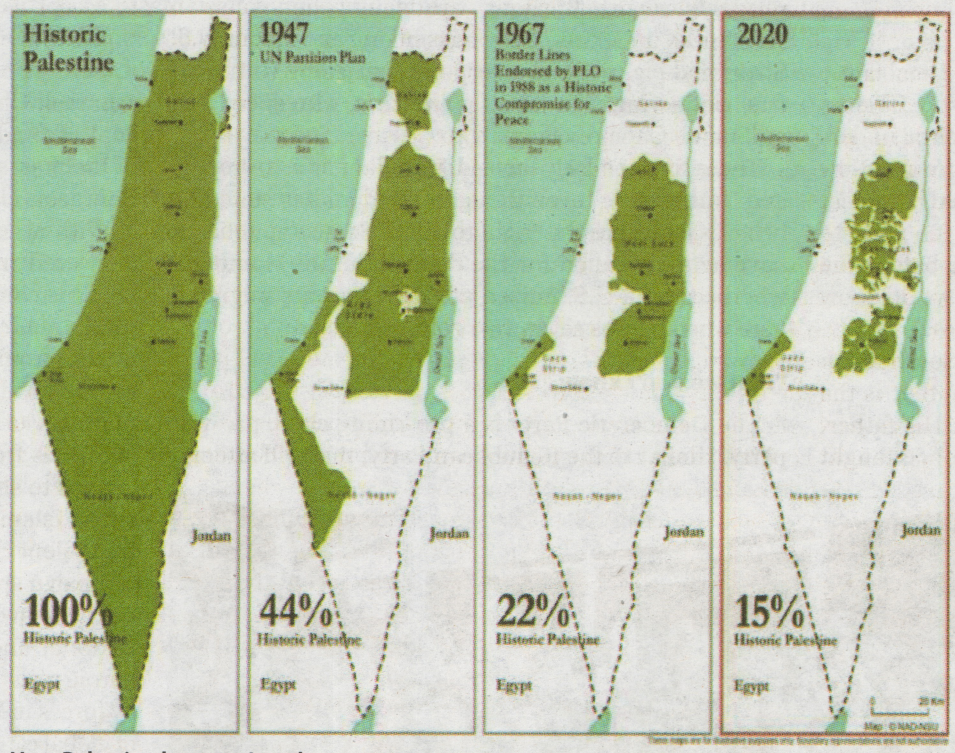
July 8 — Since the heroic Al-Aqsa Flood took place 21 months ago on Oct. 7, 2023, the Zionist state of Israel — with the military backing of the U.S. — has carried out an unprecedented racist genocidal campaign against the people of Gaza, played out daily in real time on social media. No one — including children — has been spared in this catastrophic war of horrific ethnic cleansing, which has included the mass destruction of all infrastructure — housing, hospitals, schools, electricity, places of worship, water, sewage and much more.

And then there is the slow, excruciating death by forced starvation of the Gazan population.

No real humanitarian aid, including food, has been allowed into Gaza for months. And when a trickling amount of aid is allowed in, hungry people are used as machine gun targets by the Israeli occupying forces, killing dozens every day under the aegis of the U.S.-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation. Some members of the occupying force revealed that they have been ordered to shoot to kill as many hungry Gazans, including children, as possible, according to the Israeli-based July 3 Haaretz publication.

This ongoing phase of genocide since Oct. 7 is enough of a reason to declare that Israel is a terrorist, criminal state. Even the International Criminal Court stated that Israel is guilty of war crimes and that its leaders, including Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, should be arrested as war criminals wherever they may travel.

According to the latest figures released by the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza, over 57,000 Gazans have been martyred and over 136,000 injured since Oct. 7. (Resistance News Network, July 6)



How Palestine became Israel.

Israel rooted in racist Zionism

As this author wrote in a previous article on the roots of Zionism: "Theodor Herzl, known as the founder of Zionism, was an imperialist who greatly admired the despicable British colonizer of Africa, Cecil Rhodes. Herzl strived to become a member of the ruling class rather than identifying with poor Jewish people. Herzl was, in essence, a class collaborationist and a vehement racist."

The article continued: "Herzl's 'dream' of a Jewish homeland was elaborated on by Chaim Weizmann and backed by British imperialists, including 'Christian Zionist' A.J. Balfour, who wanted a permanent European wedge in the region of Islamic nations. The 1917 Balfour Declaration, signed by British imperialists, declared Palestine a 'national homeland' for Jewish people. This was a cover to bring in Zionist settlers to set up an armed state and forcibly displace hundreds of thousands of Palestinians." (workers.org/2022/04/63580)

As a result, Israel declared its "independence" on May 14, 1948. The Nakba (or the catastrophe) exploded on April 9, 1948, when hundreds of Palestinians were massacred in the village of Deir Yassin, near Jerusalem, by armed Zionist gangs. This heinous crime against humanity forced an estimated 700,000 Palestinians to flee their ancestral lands and go to other countries as refugees.

A year and a month after this massacre, Israel was approved by the United Nations General Assembly as a member state on May 11, 1949.

As we can see today, the Nakba continues for the Palestinian people who still both suffer and resist this fascistic, settler-colonial occupation that could not survive one day if not for the backing from every U.S. administration, Democratic or Republican, since Israel's founding and which grew enormously after the 1967 and 1973 wars.

Israel more isolated today than ever

The current genocide in Gaza has resulted in Israel becoming the number one global social pariah. Millions of people in the Global South and Global North have mobilized in the streets, workplaces and on college campuses demanding a "free Palestine from the river to the sea" and for the U.S. and other imperialist countries to stop arming Israel's genocide.

Workers World Party salutes groups like Palestine Action in Britain, which organized clandestine campaigns to disable Israeli weapons manufacturers like Elbit Systems. Dock workers from Italy to France to Greece have blocked arms shipments to Israel.

Along with the heroic united Palestinian armed resistance led by Gaza-based Hamas and the Axis of Resistance — most notably Yemen and Iran — this global solidarity with Palestine has resulted in a crumbling, demoralized Israeli economy and society.

Fascist settlers are fleeing Israel in the thousands by air and sea, tens of thousands of Israeli businesses have collapsed, a growing number of soldiers are dying or suffering from PTSD, and $3 billion worth of damage was caused by Iran's retaliatory attacks on Tel Aviv last month.

Does Israel have the right to exist?

Outside of the United States, if one attends a mass concert or even a sports event like soccer, huge Palestinian flags can be seen waving in the air, as young fans chant, "Free Palestine." Many performers and athletes have expressed their solidarity with Palestine.

But this solidarity was taken to a whole new level when a popular duo of color, Bob Vylan, began a chant on stage of "Death, death to the IDF" at the Glastonbury Festival of Contemporary Performing Arts held in Somerset, England on June 28. IDF refers to the Israel Defense Forces, often referred to as the Israel Occupation Forces (IOF). Concert promoters are now threatening to ban the duo from performing in other areas, falsely accusing them of being antisemitic.

Bob Vylan stated: "We are not for the death of Jews, Arabs or any other race or group of people. We are for the dismantling of a violent military machine." (Rolling Stone, July 1) The group gained an additional 300,000 followers on Spotify since their Glastonbury performance as of July 7.

Based on all that has unfolded before and since Oct. 7, who can rationally dispute this duo's demand? Every Israeli government has instituted an apartheid-like policy of using every inhumane tactic of massacres, violent displacement, indiscriminate detentions, torture and sheer humiliation against the Palestinian people based on a white supremacist, settler-colonial, pro-imperialist ideology. The main "defense" Israel has wielded since its founding is a false claim of being a victim of "antisemitism."

Israel has also served as an imperialist garrison state that has consistently carried out military aggression in neighboring countries such as Lebanon, Syria, Iran and Egypt in efforts to expand its illegal settlements as well as safeguarding Western corporate oil and gas profits.

There is little to no separation from Israel being an illegal, terrorist machine with no regard for human life and from being a settler-colonial regime that should be totally dismantled. Therefore, Workers World Party says: Make Israel Palestine again. ☐

Times Square protest reenacts Gaza death trap

By Jessie Blue
New York City

On July 5, autonomous activists alongside PAL-Awda Long Island gathered in the heart of the central city of U.S. capitalism, Times Square, to reenact the death traps Palestinians face when simply attempting to reach food and other aid. The enactment was chillingly entitled "Gaza's 'Real Life' Hunger Games."

Over the past month, Israeli military forces have targeted, bombed and gunned down people seeking simple necessities for survival. The Israel/U.S.-backed "food distribution organization," even more chillingly entitled the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation, announces the distributions. The foundation set the stage for 19 separate massacres in which more than 549 Palestinians were killed and over 4,000 wounded.

The war crime has been evident from the start. The level of daily mass killing is the result of the Israeli military's deliberate policy of shooting live small arms ammunition, tank rounds and mortars into crowds of aid-seekers. The military's aim is to turn food distribution points into killing fields as part of Israel's ongoing genocide.

Over the past 21 months, New York residents have made it clear that they oppose the U.S. and Israel's war crimes and refuse to back down until full humanitarian aid is safely let into Gaza alongside a complete arms embargo. ☐

Protest targets murderous 'Gaza Humanitarian Foundation.' Times Square, New York City, July 5, 2025.

PHOTO: JESSIE BLUE

Why every worker should demand

U.S., Israel, hands off Iran!

By Martha Grevatt

Since this article was written there have been new military threats from Israel against Iran.

When the U.S. bombed three nuclear facilities in Iran on June 21, many workers were rightfully worried that it could be the beginning of World War III. Two weeks later, a ceasefire appears to be holding, possibly allowing people in the U.S. to breathe a sigh of relief. Of course, that is not the case for people in Iran, who live under the constant threat of military attack from Israel or even another attack by the Pentagon.

We don't need to wait for another act of war by the U.S. to figure out, in the words of the old union anthem, "Which side are you on?"

Here are a few points to consider:

1. Iran is not our enemy. Iran had nothing to do with the Big Ugly Bill, approved by Congress and signed by President Trump, that represents a massive transfer of wealth from the poorest people to the richest. Iran has nothing to do with the intensifying attacks on people of color, migrants, workers, women and gender-oppressed people, the LGBTQIA2S+ community and people with disabilities. Iran is not breaking our unions. Iran is not responsible for increased evictions, foreclosures, higher food prices, and hospital and school closings at home.

2. Every country, including Iran, has the right to defend itself. After Israel attacked Iran, killing hundreds of civilians, Iran struck back at Israel. For this Iran has been demonized in the big business media here. But Iran was exercising its right, recognized under international law, to self-defense.

3. Only nine countries in the world possess nuclear weapons and only one has ever used them. According to the Union of Concerned Scientists, the U.S. has about 5,400 nuclear weapons, most held within the country, but about 100 located in Europe. Over 1,700 are ready to be deployed with half of them on hair-trigger alert — meaning they can be rapidly launched with a presidential order.

China, in contrast, does not have any nuclear weapons on hair-trigger alert, in keeping with its "no first use" policy. The U.S. killed between 150,000 and 250,000 people when it dropped nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. The use of "depleted uranium" weapons during the two Iraq wars caused massive casualties in Iraq and among U.S. servicepeople.

4. Imperialist wars hurt the working class by robbing social programs of funds. Under the Big Ugly Bill, millions of people will lose food assistance, medical care or both. A long list of necessary social programs face cuts. Yet it will raise the federal deficit by trillions of dollars! Where is the money going? A big chunk of it is going to the already bloated Pentagon budget.

5. War divides the workers of the world. When the U.S. launches a war against another country, often with the goal of "regime change," its propaganda machine demonizes the other country's people and leaders. Working-class people are fed lies about the so-called "enemy" to shift our focus away from our true enemy, the superrich exploiting class in our own country. This keeps workers of different countries divided, at a time when global class-wide unity is more needed than ever before.

6. Only the rich benefit from Pentagon aggression. We see many ways that wars hurt workers and oppressed people. Who do they benefit? Only the billionaire class, the wealthiest — those who finance the wars, those who profit from the manufacture of weapons and those in whose interest imperialist wars are fought, like Big Oil.

Which side are you on? If you're in the camp of workers and oppressed people, your interests lie with Iran, with Palestine, with Yemen and the masses of exploited people around the world. Join them in demanding: U.S., Israel, hands off Iran!

Make your position clear before the next war starts. □

Right: Philadelphia, June 28, 2025, part of global days of action to oppose U.S./Israeli war on Iran. Inset: Iranians protest U.S. bombing.

WW PHOTO: JOE PIETTE

Festival singer leads chant, 'Death, Death to the IDF!'

By Michael Kramer

Since this article was first posted, the duo Bob Vylan have been banned from other music festivals, been cut by their talent agency and have had their U.S. visas revoked for their pro-Palestine stance. In response to this repression, a number of musical groups including The Scratch and GENN have withdrawn from performing at the upcoming Radar Festival 2025 in Manchester, England, in solidarity with Bob Vylan. Bob Vylan's popularity on Spotify has mushroomed to an estimated 500,000 followers since July 7.

July 7 — The Glastonbury Festival of Contemporary Performing Arts is an annual five-day festival in England attended by hundreds of thousands. On June 28, the punk/rap/hip hop duo with Jamaican roots named Bob Vylan led tens of thousands attending their main stage performance with the chants "Death, Death to the IDF!" and "Free, Free Palestine!" in a sea of Palestinian flags.

The BBC, which broadcast the festival performances live, has subsequently edited out the performance of Bob Vylan for future viewers. British Prime Minister Keith Starmer criticized the chanting as "appalling." And the British police have begun criminal investigations of Bob Vylan on bogus accusations of antisemitism.

The Trump administration reacted by immediately revoking their visas to the U.S. for an upcoming 18-city tour. Recently the Irish hip hop trio Kneecap from Occupied Belfast also had their U.S. visas revoked for their outspoken solidarity with Palestine at the April 2025 Coachella festival in California.

The U.S. tour was to include the Canadian rapper Grandson who is Jewish and who came to the defense of Bob Vylan on an Instagram post: "Censorship of art is a tactic of control. ... As a Jewish artist I am deeply offended by the conflation of criticism against a military force known for their indiscriminate violence with antisemitism. ... Bob Vylan are the one feature on my album and that feature will go on."

What is the IDF?

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) — now more popularly known as the Israel Occupation Forces (IOF) — is the armed military wing of the Zionist movement. It is fully funded and armed by the U.S. and its NATO allies. It has been a proxy for U.S./NATO military strategy in West Asia since its formation in 1948. It relies on forced conscription.

Bobby Vylan from the duo Bob Vylan

It is a killing machine that has never followed so-called international rules of war as codified by the United Nations Charter (1945) or the Geneva Conventions (1949), with deadly implications for civilian populations, especially children, as is currently ongoing in Gaza. Egypt, Syria, Lebanon and most recently Iran have been in its crosshairs.

So what's wrong with calling for "Death, death to the IDF!"? It's not antisemitic to call for the end of a military organization that has entrapped thousands of Israeli youth every year for decades in endless wars to maintain apartheid and genocide in the twisted interest of U.S. imperialism.

Support for Bob Vylan

Many artists and fans worldwide have come to the defense of Bob Vylan, including the Australian band Amyl and the Sniffers who also performed at Glastonbury. Lead singer Amy Taylor spoke from the stage: "They want us to shut the f – k up, because if we think about Palestine, then back home in Australia, we think about the Indigenous people there." (billboard.com, 6/29/25)

And in just a few days Bob Vylan gained almost 300,000 new followers on Spotify, including this writer!

The writer is a member of Veterans For Peace and served in the IOF (IDF) from 1972-1975.

Shut down Gaza Humanitarian Foundation! Abolish the IOF!

By Betsey Piette

On June 27, Haaretz — Israel's left-center newspaper — published claims by Israeli troops stationed at four "aid" centers managed by the Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) that their officers ordered them to intentionally shoot to kill starving, unarmed civilians trying to get food for their families, many after walking for miles. The latest reports, as of July 3, counted over 600 Palestinians killed at GHF sites, with over 4,000 more injured.

The soldiers reported that these killings were not provoked, and they were not the result of soldiers attempting to quell riots, as the Israel Occupation Forces (IOF) have claimed. The GHF sites, partially funded by the U.S. government, are described by over 170 legitimate aid groups as "killing fields."

Non-government organizations — including Oxfam, Save the Children, Amnesty International, Doctors Without Borders and the Norwegian Refugee Council — issued a joint declaration on July 1 in Geneva calling for an immediate end to the U.S.-Israeli-backed GHF and for the restoration of legitimate United Nations-led aid and humanitarian efforts. (The Cradle, July 1)

Set up by Israel in late May, with U.S. sponsorship, the GHF sites are surrounded by tanks and IOF snipers. The GHF program was never intended to provide enough aid to people starving in Gaza. CounterPunch points out that "only four aid sites were set up, and each is open for only one hour a day." (July 2) The four militarized distribution sites replaced 400 aid centers managed by experienced NGO staff.

'Slaughter masquerading as humanitarian aid'

Haaretz described the Nazi-like character of these attacks. One soldier, quoted in The Cradle article, said: "Where I was stationed, between one and five people were killed every day." Civilians are "treated like a hostile force — no crowd-control measures, no tear gas — just live fire with everything imaginable: heavy machine guns, grenade launchers, mortars."

The IOF soldiers, in a practice they called "Operation Salted Fish," created a deliberate and systematic operation to weaponize the food distribution. Doctors Without Borders calls the GHF a "slaughter masquerading as humanitarian aid."

A veteran soldier interviewed by Haaretz also described how private contractors working in Gaza were paid 5,000 shekels (roughly $1,500 U.S.) for every house they demolished. "They're making a fortune," the soldier said. "These are areas where Palestinians are allowed to be — we're the ones who moved closer and decided [they] endangered us."

"It's deemed acceptable to kill people who are only looking for food," one soldier remarked bluntly. (Haaretz, June 27)

Several IOF soldiers interviewed named Brigadier General Yehuda Vach, head of Division 252, as the 'architect behind this policy,' saying that Vach gave the explicit orders to open fire on civilians gathering for aid trucks.

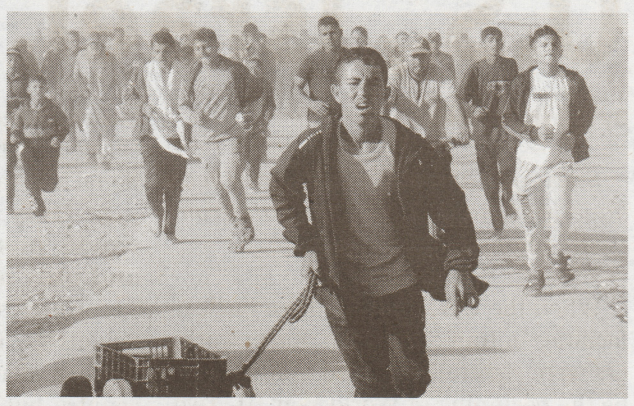
It has been clear that Israel's plan since the beginning of the war has been to bomb and starve the Palestinians in Gaza. Their sudden cessation of the ceasefire in March, blocking of aid trucks, shutting off water and electricity and the dismantling of experienced aid distributors makes this clear. The ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from Gaza has been the plan all along.

Boston Consulting Group's role

The GHF was projected to cost $550 million, and so far the U.S. has contributed only $30 million. It is unclear where the rest of the funding is coming from, although it is known that the Israeli government plays a major role. On July 2, Defending Rights & Dissent filed two Freedom of Information Act requests to uncover what forces are behind this heinous project. (rightsanddissent.org, July 3)

While the funding source is murky, an investigation by Middle East Eye reported on July 5 that the Boston Consulting Group (BCG), which earlier disavowed its involvement, had a multimillion-dollar role in designing and implementing the scandal-plagued GHF starting in October 2024 when the company was contracted to perform $4 million worth of work over the next seven months. (middleeasteye.net, July 5)

BCG — notorious for decades of union busting efforts for major corporations and municipalities — provided the "financial modelling for the post-war reconstruction of Gaza, commissioned by Israeli backers" who saw the GHF as a way to pressure 500,000 Palestinians to leave Gaza voluntarily at the estimated cost of $9,000 per person. BCG calculated that rebuilding Gaza, if all the Palestinians living there remained, would cost $23,000 per person. GHF is all about maximizing profits.



Palestinians walk to collect aid supplies from the U.S.-backed Gaza Humanitarian Foundation in Khan Younis in the southern Gaza Strip, May 29, 2025.

Dismantle the IOF!

Haaretz has laid the blame for the massacres at GHF sites on the officers who gave the orders. Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu wants to claim these never happened, but the reality that becomes increasingly clear to anyone paying attention is that the entire system of Zionism in Israel is based firmly on European and U.S. settler-colonial racism that has indoctrinated Israelis to consider the Palestinians — whose land they have occupied — as less than human and not worthy of life.

The Israeli Zionist state is a terrorist killing machine that should be abolished. While the resistance forces in Gaza are increasingly mounting more casualties against IOF soldiers — three to five incidents per day in Khan Younis — the international solidarity movement with Gaza must up our demands.

The so-called Gaza "Humanitarian" Foundation, a foundation of Zionism, is why Workers World says — Abolish Zionism!

"Abolish the IOF!" like we say "Abolish the police!"

Palestinian land for Palestinian people! ☐

Trump and politicians' inactions behind Texas flood deaths

Continued from page 1

Despite the July 4 horror, people's responses were immediate. Probably thousands of people from all over Texas and the U.S. have pitched in to help, not only with the cleanup but collecting food, water, diapers, and clothing. Feeding centers have been set up.

So many hundreds of people survived the flood with nothing but the clothes on their backs so needs are immense. Housing is being found. Churches and schools have opened up. The empathy and compassion are still present.

Mexico sends firefighters

Mexico sent a contingent of trained firefighters and first responders to assist with search and rescue. They were members of the Civil Protection Water Rescue Team and the Cure Firefighters from Coahuila. Also, members of Fundación 911, a Mexican nonprofit, brought rescue canines from the Mexican state of Nuevo León. Los Topos (The Moles) arrived in Kerr County to help with recovery. Los Topos was formed after the 1985 earthquake in Mexico and has helped in countries all over the world.

Claudia Sheinbaum, the president of Mexico, praised two young Mexican girls, Silvana Garza Valdez and Maria Pala Zarate, who survived the flood and saved at least 20 girls at the camp where they were working for the summer.

There were also highly trained search and rescue teams from California helping. The Nation of Islam in Austin sent in a team to help.

Media focus on elite Camp Mystic

There has been a lot of news coverage on the girls who were at Camp Mystic. It is important to know that there were dozens of children's camps all along the Guadalupe River until July 4.

Why is it that the media focuses on Camp Mystic?

Many prominent Texas families have sent their daughters to Camp Mystic, including the families of former First Lady Laura Bush, who was a camp counselor, President Lyndon B. Johnson, whose granddaughters attended, and three Texas governors. James Baker, who served in the cabinets of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush also sent his daughter and granddaughter to Camp Mystic. It is said that when a wealthy Texas family has a baby girl, mothers quickly put their new daughter on a waiting list for Mystic.

But not everyone thinks it is wonderful. Sade Perkins was reportedly fired by Houston Mayor John Whitmire from the city's food insecurity board, because Perkins said this in a video before she realized the severity of the flooding and deaths: "It is a whites-only, girls' Christian camp. It's not to say that we don't want the girls to be found ... but you best believe, especially in today's political climate, if there were a group of Hispanic girls there would not be all the attention." (yahoo.com, July 10)

Now, what is happening? Resources are needed from the White House and the Texas State House. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), has been cut and Trump wants to eliminate it.

The billions of dollars that Trump has spent on genocide in Gaza could fund emergency systems for tornados, hurricanes and floods that could save lives throughout the entire country.

While Trump's "Big Beautiful Bill" granted over $40 billion for his terrorist army of thugs known as ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement), Trump's dismantling of programs and services will literally kill people.

On a visit to the flood sites on July 11, Trump batted away suggestions that there was something lacking in how authorities handled the tragedy. After a reporter from CBS News Texas asked whether residents could have been warned sooner, Trump said that "only an evil person would ask a question like that." (Houston Chronicle, July 11)

Trump said: "I think everyone did an incredible job under the circumstances. Nobody's ever seen anything, I've never seen anything like this."

His answer paralleled Abbott's response in a news conference in Kerrville earlier that week, when he said only losers seek to find blame.

This time it was the Guadalupe River. Next time it could be the Brazos River. Or the Trinity River. Or Buffalo Bayou in Houston. Whether driven by climate change or upstream development or nature's sheer unpredictability, these sorts of unprecedented floods are no longer once-in-a-generation events. They are a grim reality — and Texas is unprepared.

Now 100-year floods or 500-year floods are happening every year!

Denying global warming in the face of scientific proof should no longer be tolerated. In this wealthy country, our resources should be spent on people's needs and saving and enriching people's lives.

Working and oppressed peoples must organize and fight to end the rule of President Donald Trump and Gov. Greg Abbott and the whole racist and corrupt system of capitalism! ☐

Marxism, Reparations & the Black Freedom Struggle

Edited by Monica Moorehead

An anthology of writings from Workers World newspaper.

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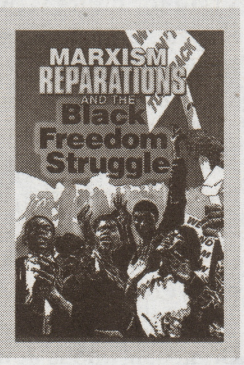
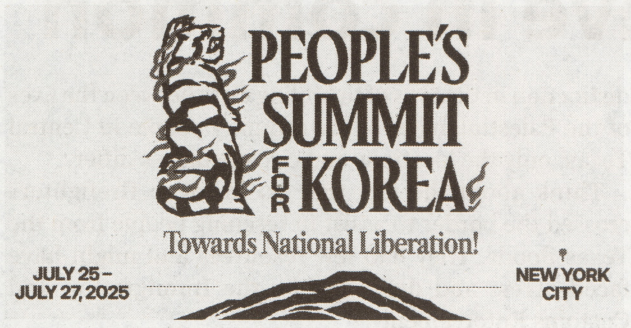


Don't miss People's Summit for Korea in NYC July 25-27



Workers World Party is always in full solidarity with the Korean struggle for full sovereignty and national liberation. WWP has consistently opposed U.S. troops and U.S. bases in South Korea and decades of U.S. sanctions, constant U.S. war games and encirclement of the DPRK — North Korea. We are proud to be a partner in this mobilization to build a People's Summit for Korea in New York City for July 25-27. Information from the mobilization follows:

The struggle for Korea's sovereignty is at a crossroads. Despite empty gestures toward diplomacy, U.S. imperialism continues to escalate tensions in Korea — expanding war exercises, deepening the Japan-South Korea-U.S. alliance and pushing the peninsula to the brink of war. But our movements are fighting back.

This July, join us at The People's Summit for Korea in New York City to unite across borders and build a collective strategy for liberation. Together, we'll:

- Analyze the impact of U.S. imperialism on Korea and the world.
- Strategize on how to advance the fight for peace, sovereignty and collective liberation.
- Celebrate resistance through cultural performances and collective action.

Why attend?

Working people in the U.S. and Korea face the same enemy: a war machine that profits from occupation. This summit is our chance to forge solidarity, sharpen our political education and organize for a future when Korea — and all nations resisting imperialism — can determine their own destinies.

Location: New York City, Riverside Church
Dates: July 25 – 27, 2025
Register: peoplessummitforkorea.org/register
Program: peoplessummitforkorea.org/schedule

Can't attend? Forward this email and donate to help us raise money for the summit.

Questions? Check out our FAQs for details on travel, accessibility and more.

Convened by: Nodutdol for Korean Community Development, Koreans for Anti-Imperialism and Sovereignty (KAS), Korea Peace Now Grassroots Network (KPNGN), Korea Policy Institute (KPI), Koreans 4 Decolonization (K4D), The People's Forum, Act Now to Stop War and End Racism (ANSWER) Coalition, Anti-War Action Network (AWAN), Dissenters and The United National Antiwar Coalition (UNAC). □

Budget bill is murderous 'Robin Hood' in reverse

By Otis Grotewohl

Workers and other critics of the plan called it the "big ugly" bill, because they consider it the largest legislative theft of wealth from the working class and transfer to the richest top 1% in U.S. history. Trump infamously dubbed it the "Big, Beautiful Bill," and the commander-in-thief signed his administration's 900+ page tax and budget policy document into law on July 4.

Originally called the "Tax Cuts and Jobs Act," the first draft passed in the U.S. House on May 22. The Senate made amendments and passed it by Vice President JD Vance's tiebreaking vote. It went back to the House floor for a second vote, where the finalized version passed in the early hours of July 3 by 218 to 214.

Trump had given Congress a July 4 deadline, so he could sign it at the White House as Republican Congress members stood behind him with U.S. flags and fireworks in the background making it a jingoistic spectacle.

Murderous 'Robin Hood' in reverse

The budget policy is an omnibus bill, because it encompasses a wide range of issues. The driving force behind the bill is to cut taxes on multimillionaires and billionaires and balance this by cutting benefits for Medicaid and Medicare, as well as food subsidies such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The bill is designed to extend tax cuts to the rich and corporations, set to end this December, put in place in 2017 during Trump's first term, and make them permanent.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates the bill could add $3.3 trillion to the federal deficit over the next 10 years and leave more than 10 million people without health coverage. (BBC, July 4) The bill places severe obstacles on the poorest people who now receive Medicaid and SNAP benefits. The now even more onerous task of applying for these benefits will obstruct many people from access.

The Senate Medicaid work requirement is the strictest ever proposed. For instance, Medicaid is shifting a required reenrollment from once a year to once every six months. Unmarried adults and adults without children are especially singled out and penalized by the changes.

Meanwhile, SNAP benefit reforms could impact 40 million low-income workers, as the burden of funding this benefit will be shifted from the federal government to each individual state.

Cuts in Medicaid reimbursements will close between 300 and 800 rural hospitals, plus nursing homes and other health care facilities such as walk-in clinics, during the next 10 years. Whole communities across the country could collapse, and millions of people could die from lack of care if rural health care facilities are forced to close.

Workers World spoke with a registered nurse active in National Nurses United who works at a "high risk" rural hospital near Harlan, Kentucky, who emphasized: "Supporters of the bill want to focus on the 'no taxes on tips,' desperately arguing people will 'have more take home pay.' But what they fail to mention is that insurance premiums will go up, and prescription costs will increase. Access to health care in rural areas like Appalachia will be more limited than it already is, and people who can't afford food will starve."

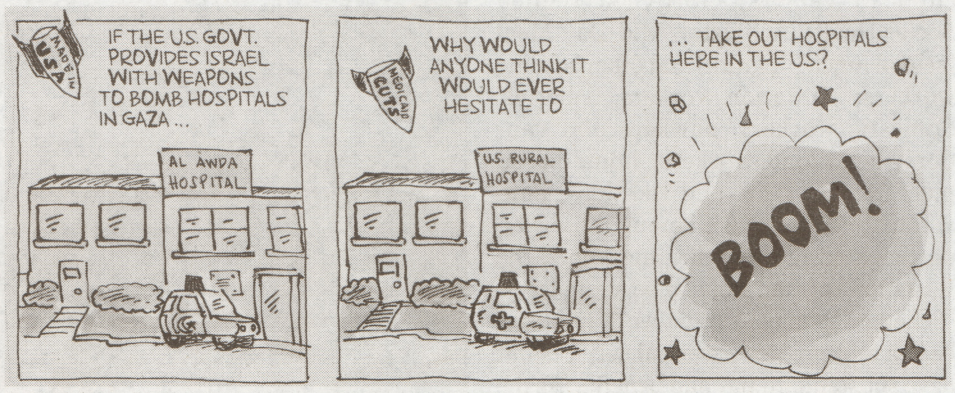
Money for racist police state, military

The Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agency's annual budget will rise from $8 billion to $100 billion a year. This will make ICE the largest and highest funded federal law enforcement agency in the country. ICE has stepped up its recruiting efforts to attract white supremacist applicants to terrorize migrant families. Additionally, members of neofascist groups like the Proud Boys are openly volunteering to be enforcers for ICE.

Trump gleefully announced the July 1 Senate passage of the bill during a visit to a new concentration camp for migrants in Florida he named "Alligator Alcatraz." The internment camp near Miami is surrounded by the Everglades, which is home to alligators, crocodiles and pythons, and Trump is using it to make propaganda for ICE recruitment.

The budget bill also increases military spending. Despite his promises about "staying out of 'never ending' wars," Trump's bill gives the Pentagon an historical financial boost of $150 billion to its budget. This new windfall comes in light of recent U.S. attacks against Iran.

Money from the budget bill will be used to bolster the U.S. military's warship building capacity, as well as to fund Trump's nonsensical "Golden Dome" missile defense project. The "Golden Dome" is described to be made up of militarized, space-based interceptors, and its title sounds similar to Israel's "Iron Dome" program.



Congressional chaos and capitalist bribery

The finalized version of the "big ugly" budget bill passed July 3 amidst chaos inside the U.S. House and Senate chambers. While the original draft passed swiftly through the House of Representatives, it faced pushback in the Senate. Three Republican senators — Maine's Susan Collins, North Carolina's Thom Tillis and Kentucky's Rand Paul — voted with all the Democrats against the bill. As a supporter of unregulated and unfettered capitalism, Sen. Rand Paul and his ultraright, libertarian "Freedom Caucus" argued the bill didn't go far enough in cutting health care and SNAP benefits.

The Senate briefly stood at a standstill with a 50-50 tie. After 48 hours of readings and debate, on July 1 Vice President JD Vance broke the tie, as vice presidents can in Senate voting.

Following the Senate's approval, Trump nominated West Virginia Senator Shelley Moore Capito's son Moore Capito as the next U.S. attorney for the state's Southern District. This selection was apparently a "trade off" for Capito's vote. West Virginia's Democratic state delegate Mike Pushkin called the appointment a "blatant quid pro quo." (journal-news.net, July 1)

A handful of House Republicans, including far-right members of the "House Freedom Caucus," initially threatened to either vote against the Senate's draft of the bill or not vote at all.

Reports indicate Trump called all Republican holdouts to offer a "swag bag" of signed merchandise. "House Freedom Caucus" members and some original House Republican holdouts openly confessed they changed their vote upon receiving signed MAGA hats and trinkets. After changing his vote, House Freedom Caucus member Tim Burchett of Tennessee said, "Yeah, he signed a bunch of stuff. It's cool." (New York Times, July 2) The final House vote was 218 to 214, with all but two House Republicans voting "yes."

Build a people's fightback against the neofascist attacks!

Democratic Party leaders failed to mobilize any serious opposition to Trump's budget bill. House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries did present a record-breaking speech, by talking for over eight hours on July 3 to delay the vote. He had little help.

Democratic Party leaders are opportunistically using the bill's success to promote their campaigns in the next midterm elections rather than take serious measures to prevent the bill's passage.

Working-class and oppressed people are fed up with requests to call or send emails to Congressional members' offices only to realize no one is listening. Some activists held a direct action on June 25, nine days before the bill passed. Thirty-three people were arrested by Capitol police in Washington, D.C., including seniors and/or people with disabilities, for conducting a "sit-in" outside Congress members' offices that day.

Six other people, including two Charleston City Council members, were arrested on June 25 in Charleston, West Virginia, for committing civil disobedience at Sen. Shelley Moore Capito's state office.

This bill shows that big tech billionaires, vulture capitalists and white Christian nationalists have jointly declared war against working-class and oppressed peoples. A united front to mobilize mass resistance is the preferred course in defeating the ruling class and their far-right enablers. Revolutionary collective unity is the only way to successfully counter the neofascist terror currently being waged against our class!

The author is a labor representative who works with nine unionized rural hospitals in West Virginia and Kentucky that are at risk of facing massive cuts and possible closures because of the neofascist budget bill that targets migrants, people of color and all of the poorest workers and hurts the entire working class.

WORKERS WORLD ☆ *editorial*

What Central Texas and Gaza have in common

Since the flash floods erupted during the July 4 weekend in Central Texas, the official death count is 129 people, including 36 children. Hundreds more are still missing. Most of the deaths occurred in Kerr County, not far from San Antonio along the Guadalupe River, which empties into the Gulf of Mexico.

Many people were asleep before any of the limited alerts from the Kerr County emergency management reached them. By then it was too late to escape the waters that rose 20 feet in two hours in some areas. There were no measures taken that could really help evacuate many residents from where they lived. It reminded many observers of what happened to Hurricane Katrina victims almost 20 years ago in New Orleans.

There was little to no coordination between local and national emergency agencies due to layoffs within the Federal Emergency Management Agency by the Elon Musk-led Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) under the Trump administration. When Trump dared to show his nauseating face during a recent visit to Texas, he had the gall to say that the floods were "an act of god."

In reality, these devastating floods were an act of climate change, rooted in global capitalism's greed for profits at the expense of the planet.

The death toll caused by these floods in 10 days is still lower than the number of Palestinians murdered, including children, on an almost daily basis by the U.S.-backed Israeli Occupation Force. According to a report from the Palestinian Ministry of Health in Gaza on July 13, some 139 Gazans were killed within a 24-hour period. This brought the official total death toll since Oct. 7, 2023, to over 58,000 Gazans murdered by the murderous Zionist regime. And this death count — which according to some studies is many times higher than Ministry of Health estimates — grows every day.

The bottom line is that whether it's the death tolls in Central Texas for the past two weeks or in Gaza in the past 21 months, the same system is the root cause: imperialism, which is capitalism at home and abroad.

The capitalist economic system, first and foremost, has always put profits before meeting the needs of human beings, regardless of any borders. The capitalist class of billionaires is driven to grow its profits through war and exploitation even if the lives of the working class are lost.

Regarding the profit motive, there is no fundamental distinction in the eyes of the ruling class between the lives of the Palestinians or of the ordinary people in Central Texas; only the locations and circumstances differ.

Think about the fact that 20 Mexican firefighters crossed the border to assist in rescuing people from the Texas floods. They had few resources and might have faced arrest and detention by the Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

Compare the solidarity from Mexico to the $7 trillion U.S. federal budget that prioritizes war over workers' needs.

Capitalism is a ruthless, predatory and oppressive system that must and will be uprooted to save all of humanity — from occupied Palestine to Central Texas. □

Starving Gazans risk getting shot by Israeli occupiers while seeking food.

Flooding in Kerrville, Texas

250 million people join India's general strike

Nine labor federations in India issued a joint statement on July 9, 2025, after a successful strike against new labor laws the government is seeking to impose. The federations are: The Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC), All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC), Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS), Center of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), All India Central Council of Trade Unions (AICCTU), Trade Union Coordination Center, Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC), Labour Progressive Federation (LPF) and United Trade Union Congress (UTUC). Excerpts from the statement, which have been edited, are below.

Congratulations to workers, farmers, agri-workers and the people at large for the grand success of the Nationwide General Strike on July 9, 2025.

More than 250 million people participated in the Strike action / Rasta Roko / Rail Roko [road and rail blockade] all over the country in the formal and informal sectors, in government, public sector enterprises and industrial areas.

There were very large mobilizations in rural India and also at block-subdivision levels by informal sector workers, agricultural labor and farmers and other sections of common people. Participation of students and youth was quite visible in many states. The rank and file of Samyukt Kisan Morcha [United Farmers Front] and the joint front of Agricultural Labor Unions played a significant role in the mobilization in rural India.

The workers and their unions in coal, NMDC [National Mineral Development Corporation] Ltd, other non-coal minerals such as iron ore, copper, bauxite, aluminium, gold mines, etc.; steel, banks, LIC [Life Insurance Corporation of India], GIC [General Insurance Corporation of India], petroleum, electricity, postal, Gramin Dak Sevaks [the rural postal service], telecom, atomic energy, cement, port and dock tea plantations, jute mills, public transport, transport of various types in the private sector; state government employees in various sectors / states and central government employees in major areas like postal, income tax, audit and others went on strike.

The workers / employees in most of the industrial areas in the country, including in many [multinational companies], joined the strike in a big way and organized processions. The defense sector employees held protest demonstrations for one hour in support of the strike and [returned to the] office only after that as per their decision. The railway unions mobilized and participated in solidarity actions.

The unions in construction, Beedi [hand-rolled cigarettes], Anganwadi [rural childcare centers], ASHA [Accredited Social Health Activists], Mid-Day Meal [school lunch program] and other scheme workers; sanitation workers, fisheries, domestic workers, hawkers and vendors, head-load workers, home-based piece rate workers and rickshaw, auto and taxi workers were among those who participated in the strike and joined the Rasta Roko / Rail Roko at several places. [Scheme workers in India work in public health and provide essential services but have substandard pay and benefits. As the union federation AICCTU explains "These scheme workers who deliver some of the most essential services to the nation are themselves at the receiving end of ruthless and cruel exploitation of their labor."]

The students, youth, women and social activists also participated in processions and dharna actions [refusing to leave a place as an act of protest] in many places. The common people supported these actions. The markets were closed at many places in response to the Strike/Bandh call. [A bandh is a general strike.]

There was a Bandh-like situation in many areas of the country, like in the states of Puducherry, Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Kerala, West Bengal, Odisha, Karnataka, Goa, Meghalaya, Manipur, etc. Reports of partial bandhs were also received in many segments of Rajasthan, Haryana, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh etc. There were industrial and sectoral strikes held in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Gujarat. (The news from other states is still awaited).

Workers joined the strike action en masse throughout the country, bravely confronting numerous intimidating and repressive actions and threats by the administrations, both of the [central government] and many states and also the employers.

The strikers expressed their anguish against the anti-national policies of the government to favor Indian and foreign corporations and international finance capital against Public Sector Undertakings [PSUs, companies with a majority owned

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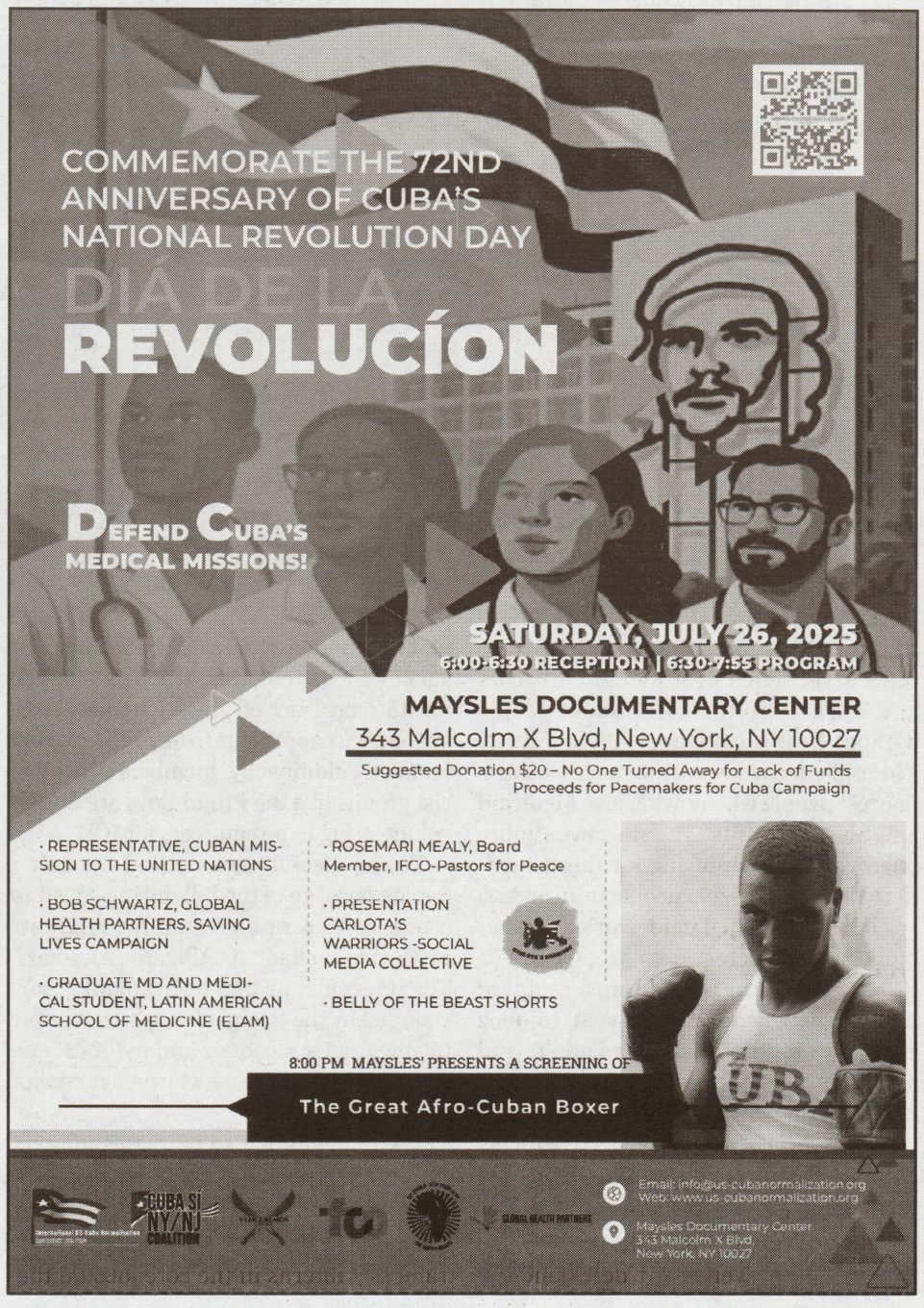

China demands end to U.S. blockade of Cuba, expands scientific collaboration

By Andrew Johnson

The People's Republic of China (PRC) has a long history of supporting the global working class. This has recently included vital support for and cooperative projects with socialist Cuba that aid both countries' people.

Direct interventions had taken a backseat since the 1978 opening-up of the Chinese economy. Recently, the stability wrought from socialist construction and the rapid growth of the Chinese economy — which some people call the Chinese economic miracle — have allowed the PRC to assert its sovereignty in the face of escalating U.S. trade, political and propaganda attacks.

Cuba, another of the countries whose economy remains based on socialist ownership and control, has also been forced to weather an onslaught of U.S. imperialist economic assaults. Since Cuba is much smaller than China and closer to the U.S. enemy, U.S. hostility has a greater negative impact. This is largely due to the different material conditions of China and Cuba and the differing approaches taken by both countries' governing communist parties as a result.

China is a massive country of 1.4 billion people with a vast economic potential on a world scale. Beginning in the 1980s, China's economy evolved into the manufacturing base of much of the world. At first, China provided inexpensive consumer goods to the U.S. and later supplied the rest of the imperialist-dominated world market with all sorts of industrial goods.

Meanwhile, Cuba lost its powerful Soviet economic partner following the counterrevolution in that country in the early 1990s. This loss led to what the Cubans called the Special Period of economic hardship of the 1990s, with the Cuban economy strangled by the U.S. blockade. This blockade not only stops Cuba from trading with the U.S., it penalizes third countries that conduct economic activities with Cuba. Washington has imposed this blockade in some form since 1962, but before 1991 Cuba's alliance with the Soviet Union countered its impact.

Since the 1980s, China has brought 800 million of its people out of poverty, a gain unmatched elsewhere. China has gained in economic stability and strength and has strengthened its military. Meanwhile, there has been weakening U.S. domination of the world, as shown by capitalist economic instability since the 2008-09 financial crisis, the U.S. inability to handle the Covid-19 crisis and the setbacks to major U.S. military invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq.

These imperialist setbacks and gains for China have opened room for the PRC in recent years to more actively defy U.S. imperialism while avoiding direct or proxy conflict.

China's recent more activist foreign policy has encompassed other socialist states, suggesting a possible new building of solidarity between countries that share complicated histories. An example is BRICS, an association of states that are either confronting hostility from U.S. imperialism or trying to achieve some independence from imperialist economic domination. Cuba became a BRICS partner state in 2023, and Vietnam became a partner country this June.

China, now Cuba's largest trading partner, displayed an act of solidarity between the two countries earlier this year by donating solar panels that would add 120 megawatts to the electrical grid. (China-Cuba solidarity, WW, May 7, 2025)

Billboard in Cuba compares the blockade to a virus. People's China is trading with and aiding the Cuban economy.

China expands solidarity with Cuba

Months later, China is now expanding its support for Cuba with both words and deeds.

On July 2, China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning strongly condemned the U.S. blockade of Cuba, calling it a "profound disaster" for the development of Cuban society and a violation of international law. (teleSUR) She reiterated that the PRC staunchly supports Cuba's socialist development based upon its "national conditions."

Mao Ning's remarks were made in direct opposition to the recent National Security Memorandum on Cuba the Trump regime issued. She also called for the U.S. to remove Cuba from its state sponsors of terrorism list. Trump re-added Cuba to this list on the first day of his second administration.

In direct solidarity, China and Cuba are continuing their joint venture in biopharmaceuticals that began in September 2023. A year later, the two countries signed an agreement to build a new cooperative laboratory linking the Cuban Center for Immunoassay (CIE) and the Chinese Beijing Institute of Technology (BIT). This new biotech lab is primarily researching the SARS-COV-2 (COVID-19) and influenza A and B viruses.

In February, scientific collaboration reached new heights with the inauguration of the first Sino-Cuban biopharmaceutical company in the Chinese city of Changzi. The company is focused on the development of high-end equipment for the production of antibody pharmaceuticals.

China and Cuba both boast a history of scientific achievements, particularly in the biomedical field. Increased scientific cooperation between the two countries is proving to be a powerful basis for the two socialist countries to bilaterally strengthen their solidarity. □

India's general strike

Continued from page 10

by the state], public services, as well as against the small trade and businesses. The government, through its policy of National Monetization Pipeline (NMP), has put on sale the infrastructure, the natural resources and national assets, which will jeopardize the self-reliant development of the country, posing a threat to its sovereignty. It is high time to oppose and fight these anti-national policies, the agitators opined.

The people expressed themselves against the rising inequalities in the face of an unprecedented price rise of essential commodities, rising unemployment and underemployment leading to desperation, increased suicides of casual labor and [increased numbers of] unemployed youth.

The government has not been conducting Indian labor conferences for the last 10 years, violating international labor standards, and continues taking decisions in contravention to the interest of the labor force, including attempts to impose four labor codes to favor employers in the name of "ease of doing business."

The trade unions consider these labor codes as a negation of the labor rights won after a struggle of 150 years, from British Raj [British colonial rule from 1858-1947] onwards. ...

The unions are asking for immediate recruitment in the sanctioned posts lying vacant in all government departments and PSUs, creation of more jobs in industries and services, increase in days and remuneration of MGNREGA [Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act] workers and enactment of similar legislation for urban areas. But the government is busy imposing [Employment Linked Incentive] schemes to incentivize employers instead, in order to subsidize their labor cost and informalize the workforce.

Some of the 250 million people taking part in a general strike in India, July 9, 2025.

In government departments and in public sector, instead of providing regular appointments for youth, the policy to recruit the retirees on the one hand and appointing fixed-term / apprentices / trainees / interns in the core jobs on the other, is being introduced as witnessed in railways, NMDC Ltd, the steel sector, teaching cadres, etc. This is damaging to the growth of the country, where 65% of the population is below the age of 35, and the number of unemployed is maximum in the age group of 20 to 25.

The government is making fraudulent claims on employment and provisions of social security. The existing social security schemes are being weakened and attempts are being made to bring private players into it.

The attack on the democratic rights as enshrined in the Indian Constitution continues more vigorously by this ruling regime, and now the attempt to disenfranchise the migrant workers is being designed, beginning with Bihar as an immediate case.

The misuse of Constitutional bodies is rampant to suppress voices of opposition, the enactments in some states to control and criminalize mass movements is in the cards; the Public Security Bill in Maharashtra and similar enactments in the state of Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, etc. are the pointers. Now the attempt to snatch [revoke] citizenship is in the cards.

This is the beginning of the prolonged battle in the days to follow in the sectoral levels focused on determined united resistance, again to culminate into a bigger national level of heightened, united action.

The unions in Delhi held a public rally at Jantar Mantar, New Delhi, which was addressed by national leaders of 10 Central Trade Unions: Ashok Singh-INTUC, Amarjeet Kaur-AITUC, Harbhajan Singh-HMS, Tapan Sen-CITU, Rajiv Dimri-AICCTU, Lata Ben-SEWA, Chaurasia-AIUTUC, Jawahar-LPF, Dharmendra Verma-TUCC and R S Dagar-UTUC. The union leaders from [Insurance Corporation Employees' Union] and MEC, and leaders of [All India Kisan Sabha] and agriculture workers also addressed the rally.

(Signed by the platform of Central Trade Unions and Independent Sectoral Federations and INTUC, AITUC, HMS, CITU, AIUTUC, TUCC, SEWA, AICCTU, LPF and UTUC.) □

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Protesta contra las redadas de ICE, Chicago, 8 de junio de 2025.

COMENTARIO DE WW/MO

La victoria de Zohran Mamdani

Lo que sabemos y lo que no sabemos

Por Monica Moorehead

Decir que la victoria de Zohran Mamdani en las primarias del Partido Demócrata para la alcaldía de Nueva York el 24 de junio fue una completa estupefacción sería quedarse monumentalmente corto. Se impuso oficialmente a su oponente, el ex gobernador de Nueva York Andrew Cuomo, que reconoció su derrota la misma noche de la votación. Aunque es demasiado pronto para evaluar los acontecimientos que se producirán antes de la votación a la alcaldía del 4 de noviembre, hay algunos puntos que sí sabemos y, lo que es más importante, otros que desconocemos.

Lo que sí sabemos es que Mamdani es un musulmán del sur de Asia, nacido en Kampala, Uganda. Su madre es la aclamada directora de cine india Mira Nair. Su padre, Mahmood Mamdani, es un profesor que dio clases en Ciudad del Cabo (Capetown), Sudáfrica, y que ahora enseña en la Universidad de Columbia, en Nueva York.

Mamdani, miembro de la Asamblea del Estado de Nueva York en representación de un distrito de Queens, se presentó con una plataforma de congelación de alquileres y viviendas asequibles, autobuses rápidos y gratuitos, guarderías sin coste y tiendas de comestibles de propiedad municipal. Es miembro de los Socialistas Democráticos de América, una coalición reformista que suele situarse a la izquierda de la estructura del Partido Demócrata.

Aunque la victoria de Mamdani el 24 de junio entusiasmó a medio millón de residentes sudasiáticos, al parecer junto con muchos votantes jóvenes de la ciudad de Nueva York, suscitó una fuerte condena por parte de

Partidarios de Zohran Mamdani celebran su victoria en Nueva York, el 24 de junio de 2025.

Wall Street y las grandes corporaciones inmobiliarias, junto con políticos celosos, de derechas y pro israelíes, que gastaron 25 millones de dólares en la campaña de Cuomo.

Estas fuerzas etiquetaron falsamente a Mamdani de «terrorista» y «antisemita» a pesar de que Mamdani ha declarado que cree que Israel tiene «derecho a existir». De hecho, algunos republicanos han pedido la deportación de Mamdani, que obtuvo la ciudadanía estadounidense después de que sus padres emigraran aquí cuando él tenía siete años.

Lo que no sabemos

El Partido Demócrata es un partido pro clase dominante y pro guerra, similar al Partido Republicano, que intentará cooptar a su base de masas utilizando cualquier táctica para ganar las elecciones. Una de sus tácticas más insidiosas es encumbrar a los políticos de color, ya sea un Zohran Mamdani o un Barack Obama. Votar en cualquier elección estadounidense con el objetivo de cambiar fundamentalmente las condiciones de vida de las masas acaba siendo una gran decepción. El dominio de la clase burguesa siempre mantiene su dominación.

Con todo esto en mente, algunas preguntas que quedan por responder en los próximos meses son: ¿Llevará Mamdani su campaña más allá de las limitaciones del ámbito electoral? ¿O cederá su campaña a los ataques derechistas de ambos partidos capitalistas? ¿Conseguirá la campaña de Mamdani implicar directamente a las masas para que apoyen su plataforma de autobuses y guarderías gratuitos y eviten que los caseros suban los alquileres convocando huelgas o acciones directas para sacudir a los poderes fácticos? ¿Conseguirá la intensificación de los ataques islamófobos, xenófobos o racistas o de las denuncias fraudulentas de antisemitismo contra la campaña de Mamdani desencadenar un contraataque masivo entre sus partidarios?

Las respuestas a estas preguntas y a otras más tendrán consecuencias nacionales e internacionales debido a la heroica resistencia al imperialismo en el Sur Global liderada por las fuerzas de Asia Occidental, lo que conducirá al declive permanente del capitalismo global. Y la ciudad de Nueva York sigue siendo el centro del capitalismo financiero global.

Independientemente de cómo se desarrolle la campaña de Mamdani en noviembre, ha llegado el momento de que los antiimperialistas revolucionarios, los socialistas y cualquiera que quiera deshacerse del capitalismo desarrollen un frente unido independiente para forjar la unidad de clase con el fin de lograr este objetivo final. □

MUNDO OBRERO
editorial

El proyecto de presupuesto expone a los dos partidos capitalistas

Fue una ocasión excepcional. Los titulares de los medios corporativos ofrecían un análisis sucinto del gigantesco proyecto de presupuesto estadounidense que se convirtió en ley el 4 de julio. En primer lugar, había que odiar a Trump y a todos los republicanos por haber impulsado el proyecto de ley. Al Jazeera, propiedad de Qatar, lo resumió así: «El proyecto de ley de Donald Trump aumentará la riqueza de los ricos, erosionará el servicio de salud para los pobres y elevará el déficit en 3 billones de dólares».

En Mundo Obrero difícilmente podríamos haberlo expresado mejor. El proyecto de ley recortará los impuestos principalmente a quienes tengan ingresos superiores a 460.000 dólares al año, disminuirá Medicaid y el Programa de Asistencia Nutricional Suplementaria (SNAP, antes cupones para alimentos), cerrará hospitales, aumentará la catástrofe climática, incrementará la financiación para la represión de inmigrantes por parte del ICE y aumentará las armas compradas para vigilar el mundo.

Pero si los criminales MAGA inspiraron ira, los demócratas compitieron inspirando desprecio. Es cierto que todos los demócratas de la Cámara de Representantes y del Senado votaron en contra del proyecto de ley. Pero un titular de la página 1 del New York Times del 4 de julio resumió cómo reaccionaron los líderes demócratas: «Los demócratas ven una oportunidad de recuperar votantes». El titular de la continuación era aún más mortífero: «Esperando la reacción contraria al proyecto de ley, los demócratas ven una avenida de regreso al poder en el Congreso».

Miembros del sindicato SEIU protestan contra el presupuesto frente al Capitolio de los Estados Unidos el 23 de junio de 2025.

El artículo era fiel al titular. La principal reacción de los líderes del Partido Demócrata -y hablaron de ello sin vergüenza- fue expresar algo cercano a la alegría por la oportunidad de culpar a la administración Trump de los horrores que sufrirán los más pobres cuando las disposiciones del proyecto de presupuesto se conviertan en ley.

Para dejar claro lo que se planea, los republicanos votaron casi unánimemente a favor de la mayor transferencia de riqueza de la historia desde los muchos más pobres a los pocos más ricos residentes en Estados Unidos.

Los demócratas -salvo un discurso simbólico de filibusterismo en el Senado por parte de Cory Booker y un retraso similar de ocho horas y media en la Cámara por parte del líder de la minoría Hakeem Jeffries- apenas hicieron nada para impedir que se aprobara la ley.

No crea que no podían haber hecho nada. Recuerde todo lo que hicieron los republicanos para sabotear la Ley de Atención Asequible, tanto mientras se aprobaba como para socavar su eficacia. Los demócratas podrían haber montado un verdadero filibusterismo en el Senado con más de un participante. Podrían haber movilizado a toda la colección de demócratas de la Cámara de Representantes para hacer preguntas a Jeffries y mantenerlo en pie más allá del fin de semana.

Habiendo retrasado la aprobación de la ley y privando a #47 de su gran discurso de victoria del 4 de julio, los demócratas podrían haber empezado a movilizar a esos millones de personas perjudicadas por la ley para que protestaran.

En lugar de eso, los demócratas decían que la gente sufrirá, y entonces nos votarán. Ésta es la postura de un partido que, aunque sabía que cinco millones de personas salieron a la calle para las protestas del 14 de junio contra el «No a los reyes», ni siquiera puede presentar una oposición importante en el Congreso. Cuando las encuestas muestran que el 70% de la gente se opone al proyecto de ley, los demócratas no se lanzan a por todas para detenerlo.

La lección de todo esto es que, si bien es una buena idea odiar a los republicanos y a Trump, es una mala idea buscar la solución en el Partido Demócrata. □